

**ONE CHURCH ONE CHILD OF FLORIDA, INC.
SINCE 1988**



**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
2010-2011**



*The Honorable Rick Scott, Governor
Rev. Beverly Lane, President
Dr. Arie Sailor, Executive Director*

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From the President and Executive Director/CEO

Increasing permanency for children in Florida's foster care system is what One Church One Child has been doing for over two decades. The past year, One Church One Child implemented an action plan to address the crisis of minority children waiting in foster care for adoption. While we have continued the practice of supporting waiting children, the new action plan heightened One Church One Child's focus on the effective grassroots approach of partnering with churches to recruit families interested in adoption.

One Church One Child has a lot to be proud of. We have helped increase the number of potential adoptive families coming forward and leveraged communities in efforts to increase permanency for children.

Recognizing that there are over 10,000 churches in Florida, One Church One Child conducted a series of kickoff events to educate church leaders on the plight of children waiting in foster care and engaged churches across the state in promotion of adoption. Kiosk display stands and photo books with pictures of waiting children were placed in the churches, families were encouraged to consider adoption and interested families were referred to One Church One Child.

These accomplishments are possible as a result of continued support from churches, individuals, communities, businesses, foundations and government partners. We deeply appreciate your commitment to our work.

Sincerely,

***Rev. Beverly Hills Lane
President***

***Dr. Arie Sailor
Executive Director/CEO***

"Increasing permanency for Florida's Children through prevention, intervention and adoption promotion."

OCOC's Vision

To be the premier leader in providing permanency for minority children through prevention, intervention and adoption promotion.

OCOC's Mission

To partner with churches and the greater community to increase permanency for minority children through prevention, intervention and adoption promotion services.

OCOC Values

- A holistic/faith approach
- The varied dimensions of individuals and families
- The importance of relationships
- Empowering those we serve
- Partnerships and collaborations in communities
- High quality, sufficient, consistent, integrated, timely and transparent services.

Executive Summary

One Church One Child's (OCOC) legislation and its corporate mission cite the adoption of minority children as its primary mission. To that end, Board Members and staff reach out to communities through pastors and churches to recruit families wanting to adopt children from foster care. The basic principle of the organization is to "find at least one family in each church to adopt at least one child."

Plans for the year included:

- ***Organizing resources*** - determining regional adoption goals based on the number of children on the Adoption Exchange.
- ***Referring families*** – referring interested families to Community Based Care (CBC) Lead Agencies or other child placing agencies in Florida for Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting (MAPP) training as potential adoptive parents.
- ***Recruiting churches within regions*** – conducting presentations in churches that explain the importance of their support, procedures and support tools, answering questions, and confirming participation with each church signing an agreement.
- ***Publicizing the need via photo albums and kiosks and media kick-offs*** - organizing photos of available children into loose leaf binders and providing easy to assemble kiosks to hold the binders and related information placed in participating churches; and sponsoring major adoption recruitment kick-off events educating and engaging churches and other community leaders in addressing the crisis of minority children in foster care waiting for an adoptive family.

- **Reporting results** - tracking and monitoring all referrals of potential families with reports to Department of Children and Families (DCF) and CBCs and completing this year-end report.

In planning, preparing and implementing the goals for the year, the board members donated countless hours of time and effort by participating in more than 30 board, subcommittees, workgroup and small session meetings.

Historically, One Church One Child was first implemented in the State of Illinois when the Secretary of Illinois Department of Human Services, Greg Coler, and Deputy Secretary, Gordon Johnson, sought out Father George Clements to help them in addressing the disproportionate number of minority children lingering in foster care. In 1988, Greg Coler became Secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families and implemented the successful minority adoption recruitment program in Florida. In 1990, the Florida Legislature passed the One Church One Child of Florida Corporation Act (s.409.1755, F.S.) which mandated operation as a non-profit corporation with a Board of Directors appointed by the Governor. To carry out the intent of the law, the program currently has a 31-member Board of Directors. Board members serve a minimum 3-year term. The current board was appointed/reappointed August 6, 2009 by Governor Charlie Crist, filling 16 of the 31 slots.

Summary of the Organization

One Church One Child operates out of a statewide headquarters located in Tallahassee and satellite offices in Jacksonville (Northeast Region), Tampa (SunCoast Region) and Palm Beach (Southeast Region).

Staff in the headquarters office include an Executive Director, Deputy Director, Community Coordinator, Administrative Assistant and volunteers. The Executive Director and Community Coordinator were hired in January 2003; the Deputy Director was hired in October 2007 and the Administrative Assistant was hired in September 2010. The satellite offices include a Recruitment Coordinator who were each hired in September 2010. The West Palm Beach office is staffed by a part-time Volunteer Adoption Recruiter.

OCOC works in partnership with churches, local businesses, agencies and entities such as, Daniel Memorial, Jacksonville Community Council, Tallahassee, Jacksonville and Tampa Chapters of Buffalo Soldiers, Governor's Office on Adoption and Child Protection, Heart Gallery, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and Florida State University Social Work Programs, Florida Coalition for Children, Family Support Services of Northeast Florida, Hillsborough Kids, Florida Baptist Children's Home, Children's Home Society and other Community Based Care Agencies statewide and continues its partnership with the Department of Children and Families.

State Board Members, advisory committee members and staff, in conjunction with members of the community, are involved in efforts to recruit adoptive and foster families. Volunteers also work with the state board members to support local recruitment efforts and their volunteer hours are captured on OCOG time tracking logs. Statewide statistics document that this year over 2,017 volunteer hours were logged by advisory committee members and other volunteers and

over 1,365 hours of volunteer time was logged by state board members for a total year-to-date of 3,382 volunteer hours. The total volunteer hours were valued at \$43,966. Volunteer hours were calculated from the number of hours State Board Members and local Advisory Committee Members and student interns donated to One Church One Child through recruitment activities. The total dollar value was calculated multiplying the total number of volunteer hours by the allowed 13 dollars.

As indicated above, One Church One Child has experienced changes and transitions from a program of the Department of Children and Families, to a licensed child placing agency, to a nonprofit adoption recruitment organization. In fulfillment of our new role, One Church One Child has implemented this innovative campaign to increase adoption resources and involve more churches in partnering to recruit families interested in adopting. The report also highlights the agency's overall accomplishments for state fiscal year 2010-2011.

Community Awareness and Involvement Activities

The One Church One Child State Board of Directors and Local Advisory Committee continue to engage churches and communities in activities to heighten awareness and increase recruitment of potential adoptive and foster families. Activities conducted during this reporting period included:

- Meeting with local churches and pastors and conducting presentations to congregations and community audiences about the need to partner with OCOC in highlighting the needs of children in foster care. One Church One Child Board members, staff and Local Advisory Committee volunteers made approximately 170 presentations during 2010-2011 fiscal year.
- Emailing monthly packets of pictures and mini briefs of actual children waiting to be adopted to over 400 churches.
- Advertising in various media including radio stations, television stations through their community calendar, local programming and newspapers.
- Distributing approximately a combined total of 9500 brochures, posters, flyers and partnership information packets.
- Setting up One Church One Child Information Booths at various community activities, such as Local Community Awareness Days, community festivals, Christmas Markets, Unity in the Community Days, Martin Luther King Holiday Celebrations, Emancipation Day Celebrations, Church Conventions and Conferences, Vacation Bible School events, Family Days, Homecoming Activities, Annual Fairs, Market Days, etc. One Church One Child Board Members, Local Advisory Committee members and staff participated in approximately 67 community events this fiscal year.
- Observing National Foster Care Month in May and National Adoption Month in November with local recruitment efforts.

- Creation and broadcast of approximately 80 public service announcements to encourage individuals, communities, pastors, churches and congregations to explore adoption.
- Observing “One Church One Child Sunday” on November 14, 2010; distributing resource packets to over 2,000 church congregations across the state of Florida focusing attention on children in foster care waiting for adoption; These packets provided sample announcements that can be read during services or published in bulletins or displayed in lobbies, libraries and vestibules.
- Coordinating, in partnership with the Tallahassee, Jacksonville and Tampa Chapters of Buffalo Soldiers, the distribution of bicycles and Christmas gifts for children in foster care.
- Coordinating Community Awareness Events such as The Perfect Match Tennis Tournament for adoption and foster care, the Gospel Recruitment Concert for adoption and foster care, Annual Family One-Touching-One Community Outreach and Annual Church Recruitment events.

****Major Accomplishments:**

- **Recruited and referred over 124 families to the CBCs who were interested in adopting children from foster care.**
- **Exceeded adoption recruitment contract goals, realizing a 222% increase in the number of families recruited.**

Data Source: One Church One Child Family Tracking Spreadsheet

Development of Beneficial Program Activities

This fiscal year, the One Church One Child Board enhanced its new adoption recruitment campaign through the churches with the support of the Governor and DCF Secretary. The new adoption campaign included launching a series of Adoption Events in key areas of the state that focused on educating church leadership on the plight of children in foster care waiting for adoption and engaging the churches to partner with OCOC to address the crisis of minority children remaining in foster care too long. Partner churches agreed to set up a kiosk and photolisting of children waiting for adoption, encouraged their congregations to consider adoption and referred families interested in adoption to OCOC.

OCOC aggressively stepped up its child specific recruitment initiative by sending monthly correspondence to targeted churches that focused on children identified by the local CBC agency.

****Major Accomplishments:**

- **The Adoption Events generated a renewed interest and involvement by the faith community with 113 churches signing one-year partnership agreements.**

Data Source: Monthly Activity Report for Contract #LJ903

Summary of the Provision of Training and Technical Assistance

One Church One Child conducted its Board of Directors' Meeting and Training in January 2011. The meeting provided an opportunity for Board members, administrators and staff of the Department of Children and Families to network and strategize efforts to better serve children who are waiting for a permanent adoptive family.

****Major Accomplishments:**

- **Major development of a more comprehensive and aggressive strategic plan that is increasing potential adoptive families for foster children and ongoing support for adoptive families.**

Summary of Fund Raising Activities

Fundraising activities have included adoption recruitment services, individual fund raisers, and private contributors. To date funds raised excluding state contract monies total \$24,564.89

****Major Accomplishments:**

- **In-kind contributions of bicycles and gifts provided to children in foster care valued over \$3,000.**

This report is submitted pursuant to section 409.1755(3)(b)5, Florida Statutes, which directs One Church One Child of Florida, Inc, in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families (formerly the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services), to submit an annual report to the Legislature by September 1, each year.

*One Church One Child of Florida, Inc.
Board of Directors*



<p><i>Reverend Beverly H. Lane, President</i> Bethel A.M.E. Church Tampa - SunCoast Region</p>	<p><i>Bishop Eustace Douglas, Vice President</i> Church of The living God West Palm Beach - Southeast Region</p>
<p><i>Attorney Abigail Johnston, Secretary</i> Johnston Law Firm Orlando - Central Region</p>	<p><i>Reverend Emmitt Wiseman, Treasurer</i> Bethel Missionary Baptist Church Plant City - SunCoast Region</p>
<p><i>Reverend Brian Brown, Chaplain</i> Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church Saint Petersburg - SunCoast Region</p>	<p><i>Reverend Willie Mayberry</i> Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church Gainesville - Northeast Region</p>
<p><i>Bishop Rushie L. Dixon</i> Faust Temple Church of God in Christ Jacksonville - Northeast Region</p>	<p><i>Ms. Carmalita Hawkins</i> Chosen For A Purpose, Inc. Tallahassee - Northwest Region</p>
<p><i>Mr. Andrew Hindman</i> Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Tallahassee - Northwest Region</p>	<p><i>Mr. Admiral Henderson</i> Florida Department of Children and Families Tallahassee (at large)</p>
<p><i>Commissioner Linda Johnson</i> City of South Bay South Bay – Southeast Region</p>	<p><i>Reverend Lucdel luke Harrigan</i> Grace Haitian Baptist Church Pembroke Pines – Southeast Region</p>
<p><i>Minister George Ellis</i> Miami Rivers of Life Miami - Southern Region</p>	<p><i>Reverend Doctor Marian Tucker</i> Voice of Deliverance Ministries Vero Beach – Central Region</p>
<p><i>Chaplin Deanna Smith</i> Tough Love Ministries Stuart - Central Region</p>	<p><i>Reverend Kenneth Scrubbs</i> First Baptist of Leesburg Fruitland - Central Region</p>